



নমঃ ভগবতে নারায়ণ রাজরাজেশ্বরায়
নমঃ ভগবতে শিব কাশীশ্বরায়

Memorandum

২৮ জানুয়ারি, ১৪৪৬ শকাব্দ

Memo No.: ADL/DCF/Memo/Year

Date: 07/04/2024

Subject:

Introduction of New Year within the Datta Chowdhury family of Andul.

Background:

Datta Chowdhury family in Andul of the present-day Sankrail CD Block of Howrah Sadar subdivision of Howrah district was founded by Sh. Devdas (Tekari) Datta, who as per family's meticulously maintained historical records, moved from their ancestral residence in Bally towards the end of 14th century CE and established in Andul, which was then under the jurisdiction of the Muzaffarpur pargana.

Subsequently, he was appointed as the collector by the independent Bengal Sultanate of his time, assuming responsibility for the Muzaffarpur pargana, with the honorary administrative job-title 'Chowdhury'. Consequently, his family came to be known as the 'Datta Chowdhury family of Andul' or simply the 'Chowdhury family of Andul'.

Old writings on Sh. Devdas (Tekari) Datta —

- (a) মুরারিস্তংসুতো বিদ্বান্ তেকড়ি স্তস্য পুত্রকঃ।
আন্দুল-নগরে সোহপি নিবাসং কৃতবান্ পুরা ॥
- (b) তেকড়ির্দেবদাসোয়ং পিতৃলব্ধ ধনেন চ।
আন্দুলনগরে প্রাপ ভূম্যধিকারীকংপদং॥
সরস্বতীনদীতীরে পুণ্যপাদপমণ্ডিতে।
চতুর্দারং দেবদাসঃ প্রাসাদং নির্মমে পুরা॥
তেকড়িস্তং কনিষ্ঠোপি বালিগ্রামং পরিত্যজন্।
চতুর্থী পদং প্রাপ্য বভূব নৃপতুল্যকঃ॥

২৮ জানুয়ারি

Main Body:

To commemorate the arrival of the family's founding father, Sh. Chowdhury Devdas (Tekari) Datta, in Andul and the subsequent establishment of the Datta Chowdhury family in the region, his present descendant, Sh. Dhruba Datta Chowdhury, with the support of a senior member of the family, Sh. Hemotpaul Chaudhuri (USA), introduced a new tradition within the family. He coined a new term called 'চতুরঙ্গাব্দ' (*Chaturangabda*) or 'Chowdhury Era (Ch.E)', signifying the era of the Datta Chowdhury family in Andul. This term serves to mark the significant milestone of their founding father's arrival in Andul and the foundation of the Datta Chowdhury family there.

The word ‘চতুরঙ্গাব্দ’ (*Chaturangabda*) is constructed out of two Bengali words: ‘চতুরঙ্গ’ (*Chaturanga*) and ‘অব্দ’ (*Abda*). ‘চতুরঙ্গ’ (*Chaturanga*) refers to the distinct armed forces— namely elephants, horses, chariots, and infantry — that were bestowed upon a Chowdhury title holder by the Government, during that time. That is why a Chowdhury was also commonly referred to as চতুরঙ্গদলপতি (*Chaturangadalapati*), চতুরঙ্গদলাধীপতি (*Chaturangadaladhipati*), চতুরঙ্গদলাধীশ (*Chaturangadaladhissha*), etc. ‘অব্দ’ (*Abda*) refers to Year or Era.

According to Sh. Atul Krishna Chowdhury's account in his book 'আমার গ্রামের কথা' (*Amar Gramer Kotha*), published in the year 1944 CE in then Calcutta, it was at the end of the 14th century CE that Tekari Datta arrived in Andul. Considering the end of 14th century CE to be 1380 CE, 'চতুরঙ্গাব্দ' (*Chaturangabda*) has a zero year that starts in 1380 CE (~ 1302 Saka year, or 787 *Bangabda*).

‘চতুরঙ্গাব্দ’ (*Chaturangabda*) starts with the first day of the বৈশাখ (*Vaishakh*) month, same as that of the Bengali calendar, which is Gregorian equivalent to the second half of April and the first half of May. The name of the month ‘*Vaishakh*’ is derived from the position of the Sun near *Vishakha* constellation.

Necessary formulae:

1. Saka year = Gregorian year - 78 [\therefore *Gregorian year* > *Saka year*]
2. Bangabda = Gregorian year - 593 (or 594) [\therefore *Gregorian year* > *Bangabda*]
3. Bangabda = Saka year - 515 (or, - 516)[#] [\therefore *Saka year* > *Bangabda*]
4. Chaturangabda = Gregorian year - 1380 [\therefore *Gregorian year* > *Chaturangabda*]
5. *Chaturangabda* = Saka year - 1302 [\therefore *Saka year* > *Chaturangabda*]
6. *Chaturangabda* = *Bangabda* - 787 (or, - 786) [\therefore *Bangabda* > *Chaturangabda*]

কো দত্তব্রহ্ম

It is 594 less than the Gregorian calendar if it is before *Poila Vaishakh*, or 593 less if after *Poila Vaishakh*.

\therefore Gregorian year > Saka year > Bangabda > Chaturangabda

Note:

This memorandum serves as the official declaration document regarding the introduction of the year within the Datta Chowdhury family of Andul.

ধ্রুব চট্টোপাধ্যায়

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Andul

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আমাদের রীতিমত প্রচলিত ব্যবহার শীলান্ অনুসারে দত্ত
অনুলিপি আমবাংলা চতুর্দশাব্দীসংক্রান্ত প্রচলিত ব্যবহার
আমি (আমরা) বরাবর 'চতুর্দশাব্দ' নামক প্রকারেই এখানকার
করে আসি।

ধ্রুব চট্টোপাধ্যায়